

Frank Ettawageshik

Frank Ettawageshik lives in Harbor Springs, Michigan, with his wife, Rochelle. They have four adult children and three grandchildren. An Odawa Indian from northern Lower Michigan, he grew up in Harbor Springs, on Little Traverse Bay, in the Odawa homeland of Waganakising (the Crooked Tree). He opened Pipigwa Pottery & Gallery in 1974 in Traverse City, Michigan. In 1989 Mr. Ettawageshik was elected to the board of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) where he served as Vice-Chairman until April of 1991, then as Tribal Chairman through July of 1999, and then as chairman of the Tribe's Economic Development Commission from 2002-2003.

In 2004, Mr. Ettawageshik was instrumental in conceiving the Tribal and First Nations Great Lakes Water Accord which outlines provisions for including Tribes and First Nations as governments with rights and responsibilities regarding Great Lakes Waters. Representatives of over 120 Tribes and First Nations from the Great Lakes Region are signatories to the accord.

In 2005, Mr. Ettawageshik was elected Chairman of the Little Traverse Bay Bands Executive Branch under the Tribe's new Constitution which separates the powers of the three branches of government: the Legislative (Tribal Council), the Executive (Chair and Vice-chair), and the Judicial (Tribal Court and Tribal Appellate Court).

He currently serves as a Board Member of the Michigan Indian Education Council, the Crooked Tree Arts Center, Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, Great Lakes Resources Committee, and sits on the Board of Advisors for the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. Mr. Ettawageshik is a member of the Michigan Travel Commission and a Research Associate for the Michigan State University Museum. Mr. Ettawageshik works to revive the making of traditional Indian pottery in the Great Lakes area and is a storyteller following the tradition passed down from his father.

While serving as Tribal Chairman in 2006, Mr. Ettawageshik testified before the U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS on behalf of the ad hoc Tribal Caucus of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration at a hearing on the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration's Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes.

In 2007 Mr. Ettawageshik testified on behalf of the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) on The Impact of Aquatic Invasive Species on the Great Lakes before the US House Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment.